

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CANBER 03400 032350Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----012524 032351Z /73

O 032330Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3168

S E C R E T CANBERRA 3400

EXDIS

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OAKLEY FROM AMBASSADOR ALSTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, US, IR
SUBJECT: US-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

1. PRIME MINISTER FRASER CALLED ME AT 8:45 P.M. ON MAY 3 TO ASK IF I HAD ANY RECENT INFORMATION ON THE US-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT. FRASER SAID THAT HE WAS VERY CONCERNED BECAUSE HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE U.S. WAS CONSIDERING CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT WITH IRAN WHICH WOULD GIVE PRIOR CONSENT TO IRAN'S REPROCESSING URANIUM. IF THE US ENTERED SUCH AN AGREEMENT, THIS WOULD UNDERCUT AUSTRALIA'S SAFEGUARDS POLICY. THE PM CONCLUDED THAT THE WHOLE THING "DIDN'T SMELL QUITE RIGHT."

2. I TOLD FRASER THAT I HAD NO HARD INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT BUT THAT I WOULD SEEK GUIDANCE IMMEDIATELY AND GET BACK TO HIM. I WOULD APPRECIATE PROMPT GUIDANCE BECAUSE I TOLD FRASER I WOULD CALL HIM THIS MORNING AND ALSO BECAUSE VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WILL ARRIVE IN CANBERRA MAY 7.

3. COMMENT: WHILE I DO NOT KNOW THE ORIGIN OF THE
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SECRET

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PM'S CONCERN, I NOTE THAT THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OF IRAN VICE PRESIDENT DR. C. MANZOOR HAS BEEN IN CANBERRA SINCE MAY 1 AND THAT HE HAS BEEN HAVING TALKS WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY AND OTHERS. HE MAY WELL HAVE BEEN THE SOURCE OF THE PM'S CONCERN.
ALSTON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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